

NOSTALGIA

Protest over hunger and areas of county are hit by major flooding

MIKE PETTY AND JAMES MILNER LOOK THROUGH THE CAMBRIDGE NEWS ARCHIVES AT SOME OF THE STORIES FROM THIS DAY IN THE PAST

Predator Josh turns bird protector - 1986

JOSH Scott was the most successful predator of wild birds on the Welney Washes, killing 25 pigeon at one time with his punt gun.

The birds were bagged in a potato sack and put on the train to London markets.

If he could not find an injured duck, he called at local pensioners' houses and told them where they might find it for their own pot.

But, in 1967, when Sir Peter Scott set up his bird sanctuary, Josh accepted the job of warden and has become a legendary figure, feeding thousands of rare swans and geese in the evening shadows of deepest winter.

Nineteen elderly die from flu - 1986

NINETEEN old people have died after a mystery flu bug swept through Ely's Tower Hospital.

Six nurses - 10 per cent of the staff - are also off sick and the hospital has been closed to new admissions.

Many of the patients are chronically ill and susceptible to diseases which fit people would simply shrug off in a day or so.

But an administrator urged relatives not to panic and said that, considering all the strains on the staff, they were doing miracles.

Now the hospital it being visited every day by an infection officer.

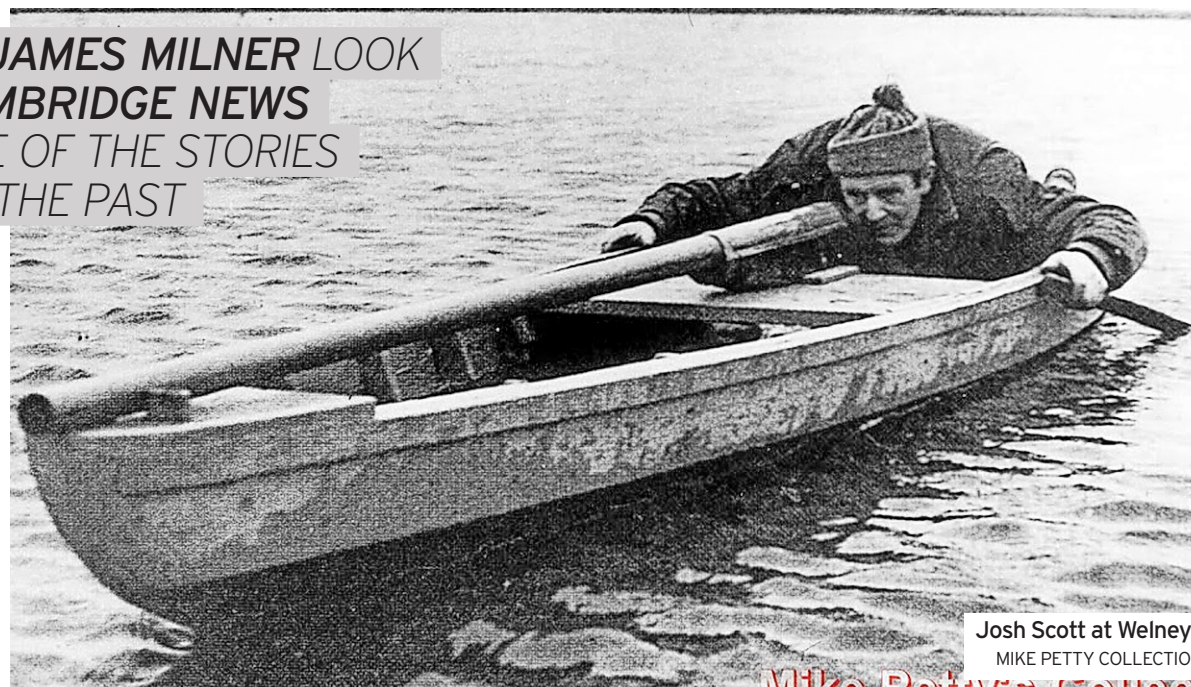
Residents sympathetic to squatters - 1980

SQUATTERS have become a way of life in parts of Cambridge. A bloke called Bleep started it all in 1975 when he somehow entered 13 James Street and called it home.

Squatting in the Kite had begun. Numbers swelled, including students, doctors, nurses, research students and the unemployed.

They came simply because they were homeless and the Kite had lots of empty houses which could stay empty for years until the time came for demolition.

A lot of residents are sympathetic



Josh Scott at Welney
MIKE PETTY COLLECTION

and appreciate having people squatting rather than an empty property next door to them. Some who have left the area have handed over their keys or deliberately left doors open.

Soft drinks production plant opens - 1965

JACK Baldry, the Cambridge mineral water firm, has installed a new soft drink production plant which has doubled their bottle output and cut factory staff by a third.

Two production lines now complete the cycle of washing, filling, capping and labelling the drinks, a job preciously done by three bottle lines and about 35 employees working on equipment which was up to 18 years old.

Now, 10,000 bottles an hour can be made up at the Gold Street factory.

Floodlights turned on at football club - 1959

THE memory of the night the lights that were turned on at Milton Road football ground will live for a long time judging by the way the inaugural match between Cambridge City and West Ham United was received by the 11,000 crowd.

Even though the first division club beat their hosts to the tune of five goals to two, they endeared themselves to all the spectators by the manner in which they did it.

They even had the courtesy

to allow City to be the first to score under the new floodlights - although perhaps it wasn't intended.

Barry Kin drove the ball hard from the wing and it mattered not that the West Ham goalkeeper helped the ball into the net.

Death of motor company founder - 1954

THE death of Mr John Berry Walford, founder of the Ortona Motor Company, has recalled memories.

He bought up the old Cambridge Motor Omnibus Company; its double-deck vehicles had swept down lampposts, been involved in several accidents and were continually breaking down.

The Ortona service started in August 1907 with four single-deck buses, but ran at a considerable loss because passengers felt safer in the old horse trams.

When the First World War broke out, a number of bus chassis were commandeered, the bodies were stored and later re-mounted on other chassis.

In 1936 they became part of the

Eastern Counties Omnibus Co.

Plans to ease city car parking - 1951

A NUMBER of proposals to alleviate Cambridge's parking problem have been compiled by the Chamber of Commerce.

They include the triangular site on the corner of Silver Street and Queen's Road used as a military car park during the war; the site on Trumpington Road formerly occupied by army huts but now in temporary occupation by squatters; at Castle Street opposite the Shire Hall and also on Butts Green during the building operations at Lion Yard.

Hunger protesters march into city - 1934

CAMBRIDGE showed little interest in the 100 hunger marchers who arrived from Huntingdon.

They halted at Girton College where jugs of tea and buns were given.

About 200 people, including members of the University Socialist Society and Anti War Movement, escorted them into town.

Darkness was falling as a rally was held on Parker's Piece where a small crowd gathered before they made their way to the Corn Exchange where they spent the night.

But police were accused of provocation when they forcibly expelled them on Monday morning.



The Baldry's Soft Drinks premises